



**The glory of youths is their
strength,
but the beauty of the aged is
their gray hair**
Proverbs 20:29

July 14, 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

www.fpctopeka.org

facebook.com/topekafpc

July 14, 2024

Order of Worship

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — “Variations on ‘Old Hundredth’” — Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr.

© 1951 J. Fischer & Bro.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (8:30) — “It is Well with My Soul” — Mark Hayes

© 1981 Harold Flammer, Inc.

(10:30) — “Loving Spirit” — Emma Lou Diemer (1927-2024)

© 1995 The Sacred Music Press

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We shall love the Lord our God,

People: and love our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader: Christ invites us to love our neighbor by feeding the hungry and giving a drink to those who are thirsty,

People: by welcoming the stranger and clothing those who need clothing,

Leader: by caring for the sick and visiting those in prison.

People: Let us worship the One whose heart is touched when we love our neighbors as ourselves.

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #32— “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have allowed ourselves to be distracted and given our best attention to everyone but you. We have allowed fear to be our guide, and stress to be our navigator. Again and again, we fall short in demonstrating Christ's love to our neighbors by judging them, withholding help, and simply failing to see them. We grumble and complain when our own needs are not met, instead of humbly asking for help. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***THE GLORIA — #583**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Galatians 5:22-23 — pg. 191 in NT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Proverbs 20:29 — pg. 603 in OT

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING — Luke 2:22-38 — pg. 59 in NT

MESSAGE — “Generational Blessing: Part 2”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***APOSTLES' CREED** (p. 17 in *Glory to God*–10:30 only)

***HYMN #543 — “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”** (10:30 only)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORDS PRAYER

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” — James Biery

© 1998 Concordia Publishing House

(10:30) — “The Lone Wild Bird” — arr. David N. Johnson

© 1967 Augsburg Publishing

***Doxology — #607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN #543 (8:30) — “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”**

#719 (10:30) — “Come, Labor On”

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION — All-Church Prayer (see insert)**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION (10:30 only)**

— #543 “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me” (v 1)

**God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.**

POSTLUDE (8:30) — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” — Phillip Keveren

© 2003 Hal Leonard Corp.

(10:30) — “Toccata for a Joyful Day” — Emma Lou Diemer

© 1995 The Sacred Music Press

Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgist: Marty Snyder

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Elliot Lauxman

Fellowship Host: John and Zelma Gould

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Director of Maintenance: Mark Ingle

Family Ministries Coordinator: Herman Jones

Office Assistant: Penny Allton

Sunday Custodian: Steve Johnson

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen